**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WOODLAND, MI**

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 24, 2022**

**\*If you are listening in your car, please tune your radio to FM 87.7\***



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God,

**against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.**

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Gathering Song“Gather Us In” ELW 532**

Diagram, schematic

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**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**First Reading  Genesis 18:20-32**

A reading from Genesis.

20Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! 21I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.”  
 22So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. 23Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? 25Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” 26And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” 27Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. 28Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” 29Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” 30Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” 31He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” 32Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm Psalm 138**

1I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with **|** my whole heart;  
  before the gods I will **|** sing your praise.  
 2**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness;**  
  **for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.**   
 3When I called, you **|** answered me;  
  you increased my **|** strength within me.  
 4**All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O Lord,**  
  **when they have heard the words | of your mouth.**  
 5They will sing of the ways **|** of the Lord,  
  that great is the glory **|** of the Lord.  
 6**The Lord is high, yet cares | for the lowly,**  
  **perceiving the haughty | from afar.**   
 7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you **|** keep me safe;  
  you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right **|** hand shall save me.  
 8**You will make good your pur- | pose for me;**  
  **O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.**

**Second Reading Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

A reading from Colossians.

8See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. 9For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. 11In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; 12when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, 14erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. 15He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [

16Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. 17These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. 18Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, 19and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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**Gospel  Luke 11:1-13**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”2He said to them, “When you pray, say:   
 Father, hallowed be your name.  
  Your kingdom come.  
  3Give us each day our daily bread.  
  4And forgive us our sins,  
   for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
  And do not bring us to the time of trial.”  
 5And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ 7And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ 8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.  
 9“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon  Claude Smith**

**Hymn of the Day“Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW 781**

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**Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. We pray especially for Hope Lutheran Church and Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer. We also pray for the people of Ukraine and the people suffering from recent mass shootings and gun violence Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERtory SONG**

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength,

The joy of the Lord is my strength.

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving for the Word**

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth

☩ bless you all, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending SonG “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve” ELW 551**

Diagram

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**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Thank you to all who served in worship today!**

**Presider: Claude Smith**

**Musician: Martha Yoder**

**Elder: Dan Utterback**

**Trustee: Mike Johnson**

**Offering Counters: Jerry Engle & Carlotta Willard**

**Safety Person: Dan Zylstra**

**This week at Zion:**

* Men’s Coffee, 8 AM Wednesday, July 27
* Bulletin and Newsletter deadline, 8 PM Wednesday, July 27

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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* **Christ in our Home and the Lutheran:** Don’t forget to sign up in the narthex if you would like to continue receiving these publications.
* **Pastor Becky on vacation** until Tuesday, July 26. In case of emergency, please contact Marilyn Danielson at 517-526-4316.
* **Free Community Meals** will be held every Thursday at Central United Methodist Church from 4-6. All are welcome to attend. **Volunteers are needed for the community meal at Central United Methodist Church for July 28.** They’re also looking to schedule volunteers for the month of August.. Please let Pastor Becky know what week(s) in August that you could help.
* **Blessing of the Backpacks**: On July 31st, there will be a special blessing of the backpacks for our kids as they start back to school in August. Kids should bring their backpacks to service. Each child from preschool through high school will receive a small gift of school supplies.
* **VBS Supplies:** Our mission partner congregation, Trinity Lutheran, Battle Creek, is having an intergenerational VBS from August 15-18 from 3:45-6:00. They would love a few people from Zion to come and take part as well as assist with their collection of items. Here is a list of items that are needed. Please bring them to church by August 7 so I can tell them what we have collected and have time to make arrangements to deliver them.
  + Paper Cups
  + Potting soil
  + Green beans seeds
  + Pony beans in red, white, black, green, blue, and yellow, 300+ each
  + Beads with opening at least 2mm in diameter, could be more pony beads
  + 8 oz bottles of water
  + Sidewalk chalk
* **Run for Your Life 5K and Family Walk** on August 13 to support the new Alpha Care Center on 4th Ave in Lake Odessa. For more information, contact Robin Morehouse at [robinm@alphacarecenter.org](mailto:robinm@alphacarecenter.org) or visit their website at <https://alphacarecenter.org>